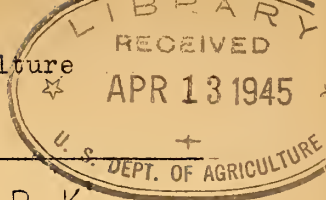


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WARTIME EXTENSION WORK

SUMMARY OF EXTENSION WORK, TECHNIQUES, AND RESULTS BASED ON STATE REPORTS

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High points of interest in this week's summary: Recruitment of Victory Farm Volunteers; home electric dehydrators; protein feed information distributed by 5,000 leaders; poultry production.

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LOUISIANA
June 1, 1943

Farm labor.--Plans for handling manpower shortage set in motion at meetings of county agents throughout State. Each agent in 64 parishes undertook setting up operational plans for carrying on farm mobilization program to supplement hiring of labor through regular channels. Boys and girls 14 years old and over belonging to 4-H Clubs in south Louisiana parishes enlisted in Victory Farm Volunteers to harvest truck crops of snap beans, turnip and mustard greens, and kale. Schools closed during harvest period to resume early in compensation for time lost.

4-H Clubs.--Upwards of 2,000 4-H Club members will attend annual camps in Louisiana, largest number in any year. Camps are designed as aid to morale among youth, providing recreation and relaxation, following unprecedented efforts in various production projects.

Sweetpotatoes.--Over 100,000 acres planted this year, largest in history of industry in State. First shipments expected about June 15. Last year's acreage, 88,000; yield, 5,808,000 bushels. Shipments 1942 crop to date; 4,110 cars; all U. S., 8,021 cars. Five dehydration plants will absorb large proportion of this year's crop for lend-lease.

Poultry.--Two additional U. S.-approved hatcheries established in Avoyelles Parish, producing 32,000 chicks a month. Virtually every farm in State engaged in poultry production, besides large numbers of urban families growing chickens for home consumption. Extension poultrymen conducted schools by radio each week to teach poultry keepers proper practices.

Wool and mutton.--Through introduction of purebred Corriedale rams, Calcasieu Parish sheep farmers doubled production of wool and improved quality of mutton of native flocks. Plans made to place 30 to 35 more purebred rams in parish; 22 already purchased.

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June 12, 1943
775-43

Food conservation.-To conserve meat for food, photographs were used in meat-identification contests in 4-H Achievement Day programs.

Former practice of preserving fruits and vegetables by sun-drying was revived in various parts of State because of shortage of pressure cookers.

Strawberries.-Total returns from strawberries shipped by rail and truck to market amounted to \$3,580,000 from 1,173 cars. This compares unfavorably with \$5,250,000 crop of last year, but compares favorably with the \$3,500,000 returns of 1941. Unfavorable weather, including early freeze followed by hot weather at beginning of harvest season, hindered proper development of crop. Shortage of manpower caused more family work, resulting in larger individual profits to farmers. Average price at auction was \$4.15¹/₂ per crate, highest in history of Louisiana industry. Last year highest average price was \$2.49¹/₂.

MONTANA

June 1, 1943

Farm labor.-District meetings of extension agents held to familiarize them with provisions of Farm Labor Act and to take steps toward putting it into effect. State organization completed: State county agent leader is supervisor, State 4-H Club leader is assistant in youth work, and State home management specialist is assistant in women's work. Five specialists will give general supervision in districts.

Production capacity and goals.-Crop standardization program makes supplies of high-quality seed available for increased acreages of flax, beans, small grains, and corn. Heavy seeding of alfalfa, and of small grains for forage, being accomplished to forestall possible shortage due to severe alfalfa winter-kill. Small grains and flax being seeded in areas of heavy winter-killing of fall wheat, to maintain total acreage.

Counties given help in working toward goals and in studies for maximum 1944 production.

NEW YORK

June 4, 1943

Correction.-In New York item on vegetable production outlook (Wartime Extension Work, Summary No. 53, May 29, 1943, page 5), statement on expected increase of 100 percent in snap beans and green vegetables should be revised to read, "little change expected in acreages of snap beans and green vegetables."

PENNSYLVANIA

June 1, 1943

Food preservation.-Most counties giving marked attention to educational work in canning, dehydrating, salting, and freezing of foods; some county home economics programs concentrating solely on this phase of food conservation. To meet many requests from both urban and rural sources, county workers are making information available through demonstrations, discussion meetings,

newspapers, radio, and printed and mimeographed publications. Neighborhood leaders are canvassed to find out where demonstrations are needed and to encourage attendance.

Three temporary specialists added to extension staff to assist county workers in expanded food-conservation activities. Before "canning time," food-preservation demonstrations and discussion meetings will have been held by county workers and nutrition specialists in every county and in every one of 799 communities in State.

Protein feeds.-Sectional conferences of county agents held to discuss protein feeds and need for informing people of situation. Special letter of information on protein feeds, prepared at State college was sent to 5,000 men leaders through county agents and made available through other extension channels.

VIRGINIA
June 1, 1943

Farm labor.-Early in May group meetings of county agents were held to discuss farm labor problems and county labor office procedures. Intensive efforts directed at truck crop areas where harvest labor is badly needed, especially for one of State's largest potato crops. Much assistance rendered by negro agents and leaders in appeals to former workers who now have better incomes. Seeking migratory labor and have camps in Norfolk area. Order placed for 300 Bahamians. Fifty negro Boy Scouts from Richmond to be placed in encampment on Eastern Shore.

All county agents making careful survey of labor needs. Chief difficulty is to get farmers to say definitely what their needs will be. Heavy demand in Winchester area expected later.

Recruiting VEV's in city high schools, using care to select 200 to 300 boys and girls willing and able to do work required. Girls selected are willing to do housework. All receiving training in special classes outside school. About one-fourth already placed. Estimated 1,000 to 1,500 volunteers from schools in small towns, most of whom are already assigned for farm work in home locality.

WLA recruitment for attendance at 3-week course at V.P.I., beginning June 7, will total more than required number. Will likely include also non-WLA members.

Home food supply.-Reports show 5,000 neighborhood leaders cooperating in program and 44,000 families agreeing to increase home production of vegetables, poultry, pork, and milk.

Emphasis now shifting to food preservation. Groups organizing for purchase or use of equipment. For example: County-owned pressure cooker in Essex works on day and night shift. Day borrower brings cooker back on 5 p.m. bus. Cooker goes out on 6 p.m. bus for overnight use by another homemaker and is back in morning for another user.

Cooperated with committee from Southern States in getting priorities for manufacture of 100,000 electric dehydrators for this season. Illustrated folder in color on "How To Dehydrate Food at Home," jointly printed by several Southern States, given general distribution in Virginia. Gives plans for construction of home dehydrator as developed by Southeastern State extension agricultural engineers and TVA.

Poultry.--Specialists made 232 farm visits, held 28 4-H Club and 40 adult meetings; total attendance, 1,863. Seasonal objectives: Handling food situation, demonstration of fowl-pox vaccination and other disease-control methods, and range management.

Dairy.--Four area meetings held for dairy herd improvement supervisors, county agents, and dairymen regarding protein feed production and use. Supervisors work with dairymen who have approximately 15,000 cows. Dairy specialists selected and placed 35 registered production-bred bulls and 16 foundation females during May. Aid given in dairy records and milking demonstrations and contests, mostly for club members, and in reconditioning cream separators or locating new ones. More production of cream resulting from 4-H dairy program.

Dairy industry transportation committee for State organized and working to establish county committees to effect economies.

Livestock.--Six counties establishing 4-H pig-cow-hen projects, making total of 54 in State. In each county 4 to 7 sow pigs are placed with club members, who return 1 sow pig out of first litter to be placed with another club member. Projects in last 2 years produced 2,500 pigs.

Health.--Example of what home demonstration clubs can do about health comes from Franklin County, which has no organized public health service. Clubwomen decided on health as county goal for year and set out to get as many homemakers as possible trained in home nursing. State health department supplied instruction for 12 community classes. More than 300 enrolled and 211 received certificates. Club members now studying and using check sheets on safety in the home.

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